

DYW

ORKNEY
Developing the
Young Workforce

NEWSLETTER

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Welcome Message

Welcome to the latest issue of the DYW Orkney newsletter. In this issue, we have information about a recent event we hosted to help employers learn how to engage with their future workforce more easily. We are also appealing for employers to support mock interviews next year, and provide an update on some of our recent activities with schools.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our activities during the past year, we look forward to working with you all again in 2020.

Rachel Scarth
Project Manager – DYW Orkney

Engaging with your Future Workforce

We recently hosted an event to help local employers learn how they can engage with their future workforce more easily.

Over 20 employers attended our 'Lunch and Learn' to hear how Founders4Schools and Marketplace can help them engage with school pupils, in a way that fits in with their business needs.

Marketplace, which is offered free of charge by Skills Development Scotland, enables employers to offer opportunities to local schools under the headings of skills, inspiration and career insights. These can include site visits, talks, challenge activities or helping develop soft skills, such as CV writing and interview skills.

Opportunities can be offered at certain times or throughout the year – whenever is appropriate for the employer. Teachers are then able to view the opportunity and book pupils onto the visit.



Founders4Schools enables teachers to identify local business leaders who are able to come into schools to speak about their industry or job role. This site is also free to use and local employers and business people can register through their LinkedIn profile, or through the DYW Orkney partner page ([here](#)), indicating what sort of activities they can support.

Teachers then create an event and use the website to invite those who have registered. Business people can then choose to attend any event that they are able to.

Both sites are free to use, and if you would like to learn more or register, please click on the links below:

[Marketplace](#)
[Founders4Schools](#)

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Employers needed for Mock Interviews

Skills Development Scotland and DYW Orkney will be running a course for school leavers early next year.

'Planning for the Future' is a seven week course which is open to S4 pupils at the KGS and Stromness Academy who will be leaving school at the end of this academic year.

The course helps them understand the training, education and employment opportunities that are available to them. We will also help them learn how to search and apply for jobs, develop a CV, complete a job or college application and prepare for an interview.

The course concludes with mock interviews where they will be given a chance to present their CV and answer some interview questions posed by local employers.



Mock interviews at the KGS last year.

We need the help of local employers with the mock interviews, which will be held on the following days:

Stromness Academy: Monday 30 March 2020: 10.55am-11.45am
Kirkwall Grammar School: Thursday 2 April 2020: 11.30am-12.20pm

If you would be interested in getting involved with either of the sessions, please contact us on orkneydyw@uhi.ac.uk

Business Studies Advisory Board

The Business Studies Department at Orkney College UHI are looking for members of the business community to join their Advisory Board, which meets up to three times per year. Members have relevant business knowledge, and this helps to contribute towards the development of Business Studies provision, that meets employer needs.

If you are an employer, manager or business owner and would like to get involved or would like more information, please contact Mandy Smith at mandy.smithOC@uhi.ac.uk.

WorkIT update

In the last newsletter ([here](#)) we updated you on the work we have undertaken in relation to work placements. As part of that, we mentioned we are introducing a new system called WorkIT.

WorkIT will help with the management of the work placement process, making it easier for the schools and young people.

We are in the process of getting the site ready for use by the schools and will shortly undertake training with teachers in how to use the site. We hope this will enable pupils to start using the site early next year.

We may have to come back to employers to gather some more information about the types of work placements you offer. This is in order to help young people identify a

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placement that is right for their ambition, skills and abilities. DYW Orkney will contact employers directly to discuss this further.

opportunities that are available to them on Stronsay, elsewhere in Orkney and further afield.

Skills for Growth

Did you know that Skills Development Scotland offers a free consultancy service to businesses with less than 250 employees?



Their Skills for Growth programme is run in partnership with Remarkable and gives employers access to up to two days free consultancy.

They will work with you to understand your skills need, create a detailed people plan and guide you to the right support and help you find training and funding.

You can read more about Skills for Growth [here](#).

If you would like to speak to someone about Skills for Growth, we can help you make contact so let us know on (01856) 569 352 or by emailing orkneydyw@uhi.ac.uk

Stronsay Destinations

We visited Stronsay Junior High earlier in December to host a careers event to help pupils think about their career options and understand the range of

Titled Stronsay Destinations and using the theme of No Wrong Path, the event was organised by the school, Skills Development Scotland and ourselves. We were joined at the event by Cooke Aquaculture and Papdale Halls of Residence.

In the morning, Cooke Aquaculture ran activities with the primary pupils to help them learn about the different careers in aquaculture. The afternoon was devoted to a careers event for P7 and secondary pupils to help them learn about some of the education, training and career pathways available to them. House Parents from Papdale Halls of Residence were also on hand to speak about life in the hostel – an important part of the transition to the KGS for older pupils.



The event was a chance for pupils to learn about the employment, training and education pathways available to them.

The school also used the event to launch their Stronsay Destinations booklet which included updates from former pupils of the school about their career path, many of them showing there is no wrong path into a career.

You can read more about this event on our website, [here](#).

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Gaining an insight into NHS careers

For the second year, we have worked in partnership with NHS Orkney to host a 'Day in the Life' event at The Balfour to help young people learn more about the range of health and social care careers that are available with NHS Orkney.

Open to interested pupils from S3-S6 at secondary schools throughout Orkney, the event was a chance for pupils to speak to clinicians, learn more about their day-to-day roles and also try out some practical aspects of different professions.

Forty-six pupils attended the event at The Balfour and were able to speak to 16 different professions, including Dietetics, Podiatry, Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Radiography and Nursing.



Pupils were able to speak to clinicians and learn more about their day-to-day roles.

Rona Harcus, Practice Education Lead, NHS Orkney said: "Day in the life events are increasingly popular all over Scotland, due to their value in attracting young people to different health careers in the NHS. When facing national shortages of various health care professions and difficulties recruiting to rural areas, it is vital we

promote the work of health care staff in local areas."

Skyla Nicholson, who is in fourth year at Kirkwall Grammar School, is still undecided on her career. She said: "The event showed me the wide range of careers available within the NHS and that there are lots of different locations within healthcare, as well as the hospital."

Fifth year pupil at Kirkwall Grammar School, Owen Griffith, said: "I knew I wanted to be a Dietician, however now that I know more about what the role entails, I am more confident that this is the career for me."

Thanks to NHS Orkney for their support in running this event.

Merry Christmas from DYW Orkney

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

We hope you all enjoy some time off over the festive period and we look forward to working with you all in 2020.

